METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING
A PLURALITY OF LOCOMOTIVES

ABSTRACT

[0033]   An apparatus for controlling a plurality of locomotives, the locomotives being responsive to a plurality of discrete actual commands, the apparatus comprising: a combination generator adapted for generating combinations of the discrete actual commands to yield a command combination set; a performance calculator adapted for calculating a performance parameter set from the command combination set; a feasible combination selector adapted for selecting a feasible combination subset from the command combination set as a function of a discrete performance setpoint, a performance tolerance, and the performance parameter set; an objective function calculator adapted for calculating an objective function set from the feasible combination subset; and an optimal command selector adapted for selecting an optimal command combination from the feasible combination subset corresponding to an optimum value of the objective function set.